

Worship of the One True God – The Altar of Incense: Praise and Worship

Exodus 30:1-10 (Exodus 37:25-29) Exodus 30:34-38

Bezaleel and Aholiab execute the actual construction (Exodus 31:1-11)

Incense symbolic of prayer and praise – Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4

Exodus 29:18 – offering to God is sweet aroma to Him. In Encountering God, Bishop Blake says (pg. 115) “It (incense) not only filled the Tabernacle with a sweet smelling aroma; it was symbolic of the prayers, praises, and worship of the children of God.

Psalms 141:2 – Let my prayer be set before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

We must remember that our praise, our worship is a sacrifice to the Lord.

Hebrews 13:15 – Therefore, by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

All sacrifices to God had to meet criteria, mainly, that they were without blemish, brought the most excellent to the Lord. Anything less was unacceptable: Malachi 1:6-14; Isaiah 1:10-15

Clearly, when we are walking in disobedience or are insincere or are just giving God “whatever”, what we are offering to Him is unacceptable.

The Word of the Lord cleanses us, leads us, teaches us, shows us when we have transgressed God’s will and enables us to stand before Him once we have repented, with clean hands and pure hearts: Psalm 19:7-14. Then our praises and worship can be acceptable to God.

John 4:23, 24 – True worship of our God is in spirit and truth.

By our scriptures we read that the special incense and the perfumed anointing oil were holy unto the Lord, were not to be used profanely, only used for the specific use that God had ordained. We are holy unto the Lord, separated for His specific use. When we allow ourselves to be used profanely in the world, we who are holy unto the Lord, we desecrate that which belongs to God, and what we offer Him becomes tarnished.

Strange Fire: Lev 9:24; Lev. 6:13 Lev. 39:9 (strange incense) Lev.10:1-3

We offer strange fire to the Lord when.....(fill in the blanks) i.e. we try to worship with unforgiveness in our hearts.